

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 STR-04 /082 W
-----210638Z 107433 /23

R 201718Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 400
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3966

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IT, SP
SUBJECT: RESULTS OF ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO MADRID

1. WE HAVE HAD THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS FROM AN ITALIAN
EMBASSY SOURCE HERE REGARDING ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
FORLANI'S VISIT TO MADRID FROM MAY 13 TO 16.

2. THE ITALIANS VIEW THE VISIT AS HAVING BEEN VERY POSI-
TIVE. THEY NOTE THAT IT IS THE FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT BY
AN ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO SPAIN IN 41 YEARS. IT
FOLLOWS THE VISITS OF TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ITALIAN
CABINET AND BEGINS WHAT THE ITALIANS TERM A NEW FULL AND
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CORDIAL POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP. THIS IS ITS MAIN SIG-
NIFICANCE IN THEIR VIEW.

3. OTHERWISE, NOT A GREAT DEAL OF SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE
NATURE OCCURRED DURING THE VISIT. THE SPANISH REVIEWED
THEIR POLITICAL SITUATION AND THE ELECTORAL OUTLOOK. THERE
WAS DISCUSSION OF MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY MATTERS AND OF

SPAIN'S INTENTION TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AFTER ELECTIONS. OUR SOURCE NOTED THAT WHILE ITALY FAVORED THE LATTER INITIATIVE IN PRINCIPLE, THERE WOULD BE NEGOTIATING PROBLEMS OVER AGRICULTURE. HE ALSO NOTED, AS HAVE OTHER EUROPEANS IN THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY HERE, THAT THE SPANISH SEEM TO BE LINKING THEIR POSSIBLE EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP IN NATO WITH MEMBERSHIP IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

4. FORLANI EXTENDED INVITATIONS TO BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA AND PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ TO VISIT ROME AT SOME FUTURE DATE. THE SPANISH WERE PLEASED AT HAVING THESE INVITATIONS BUT NO TIMETABLE WAS DISCUSSED IN VIEW OF THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS.

5. FORLANI RECEIVED AMPLE AND POSITIVE PRESS COVERAGE WHILE HERE, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE END HIS VISIT MARKED TO AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF COOL RELATIONS, AND ON THE ISSUE OF SPAIN'S EVENTUAL ENTRY INTO THE EC. WHILE THERE WAS A TENDENCY TO LUMP ITALY WITH FRANCE AS FERAING SPANISH AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION, THE LIBERAL LEFT EL PAIS EDITORIALIZED THAT IN FACT SPAIN AND ITALY (AND PORTUGAL AND GREECE) HAVE A MUTUAL INTEREST IN FIGHTING THE EC'S CURRENT AGRICULTURAL POLICY, WHICH THE PAPER SCORED AS BIASED IN FAVOR OF NORTHERN CLIMATES AND THUS ECONOMICALLY UNSOUND.

6. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE PROMISED US A BRIEFING ONCE THE PRESENT SPATE OF VISITORS (INCLUDING FORLANI, DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSEN, AND PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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